



# LARC



Volume 59, Number 03

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation March 2019

## 59<sup>th</sup> Acadiana Hamfest 2019

 <b>Largest Hamfest on Gulf Coast!!</b> <b>Voted best food of any Hamfest</b> <b>59<sup>th</sup> ACADIANA HAMFEST 2019</b> Rayne Civic Center - 112 Frog Festival Drive, Rayne, Louisiana 70578 <b>ARRL LOUISIANA STATE CONVENTION</b> <small>Sponsored by: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. and City of Rayne, Louisiana Talk-in: W5EX1 147.040 (PL 103.5) - Admission at door \$8.00</small>		
<b>MARCH 8 &amp; 9, 2019</b> <b>Friday</b> 3 PM to 8 PM <b>Saturday</b> 8 AM to 3 PM	<b>Confirmed Vendors &amp; Dealers</b>        	
 <b>FRIDAY NIGHT FUN</b> 6:00 PM Crawfish Boil (Pre-register only) 7:00 PM Fais-Do-Do with Cajun Music  <b>MAIN PRIZE DRAWINGS</b> <b>FRIDAY 7:00 PM</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Yaesu Radio (TBA) 2 <sup>nd</sup> ICOM ID-51A PLUS2 VHF/UHF D Star Handheld Plus more! <b>SATURDAY 2:00 PM</b> Grand Prize: ICOM IC-7300 HF-50 MHz Transceiver 2 <sup>nd</sup> ICOM IC-5100 VHF/UHF D Star Mobile 3 <sup>rd</sup> MFJ 269C Antenna Analyzer w/accessories 4 <sup>th</sup> MFJ-4230MVP PSU 30 amp switching power supply Plus more!	<b>■ Frank Krize Electronics</b> <b>■ M<sup>c</sup>M Computers</b> <b>■ CAJUN RF</b>	
<b>HAMFEST HIGHLIGHTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LADIE'S Hi Q SWEETS (Homemade)</li><li>• CAFÉ CQ (Menu on website)</li><li>• LADIES BINGO (Saturday starts 8:30 AM)</li><li>• ATM on Site</li><li>• VE Testing (Saturday 9:00 AM - See website)</li><li>• GO KIT DISPLAYS</li><li>• QRP - FACTORY &amp; HOME BUILT DISPLAYS</li><li>• ARRL Guest Speaker - To be announced</li><li>• RADIO TESTING TABLE AVAILABLE <small>Check website for details.</small></li></ul>	<b>TABLES</b> Ham Radio Related Swap Tables: \$10.00 each Flea Market (Craft) tables: \$20.00 each. Overnight Security provided by Rayne PD. <b>See website for downloadable forms.</b>   <b>A very special <i>THANK YOU</i> to the City of RAYNE, LA for Co-sponsoring our Hamfest!!</b>	
<b>FEMA ICS TRAINING</b> Friday 0800 - until 25 seat limit Skip Breeden, LA DOTD Director of Emergency Operations	<b>FORUMS (Saturday Only)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Louisiana Contest Club</li><li>• Louisiana Council of Amateur Radio Clubs</li><li>• David Assaf III W5XU - DXpedition Lectures</li><li>• SKYWARN</li><li>• AMSAT</li><li>• ARES/ARRL</li><li>• ARRL Delta Div.</li><li>• DWARN</li></ul> <small>Check website for updates &amp; schedules</small>	
<b>Host Hotel:</b> Best Western Rayne Inn, 337-334-0060 - Mention "AARA Hamfest" and get a "Special Room Rates" of King \$83.99 plus tax or Double Queen for \$87.99 plus tax which is a 25% savings over regular price. <b>Check Website for Directions, Map &amp; Updates at: <a href="http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/">http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/</a></b>		

## AARA GENERAL MEETING

**April 4 @ 7:00 PM**

Lafayette Science Museum 433 Jefferson St. Lafayette, LA

[www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/)

**VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**

*The LARC is published monthly*

*By the*

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

**DATES TO REMEMBER****GENERAL MEETING**

April 4, 2019 7:00 PM  
Lafayette Science Museum  
433 Jefferson Street  
Lafayette, LA

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>  
Local 2-Meter Nets

**Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Tuesday**

Region 4 SkyWarn Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Wednesday**

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM  
145.410 No PL New Iberia, LA

146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA  
EchoLink Node: 370324

**AARA OFFICERS 2018 - 2019**

President – Chris Ancelet N5MCY  
[cancelet@gmail.com](mailto:cancelet@gmail.com)

V. Pres. - Derek Meche WM5TS

Secr – David McCutcheon KG5JHR

Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

Steve Webre AF5VR

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

**YOUTH MEMBER**

Page Romero KG5VPR

**QSL MANAGER**

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

Herman Campbell - KN5GRK  
337-234-5364 [kn5grk@lusfiber.net](mailto:kn5grk@lusfiber.net)

**AARA REPEATER GROUP**

Charlie Morrison N5WE - Trustee  
Derek Meche WM5TS

Dave Redfern N4ELM

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Joseph "Moe" Meaux

[jdmeaux2002@gmail.com](mailto:jdmeaux2002@gmail.com)

**Web Master**

David McCutcheon KG5JHR

## ARRL Board of Directors Issues Statement on Amateur Radio Parity Act

At its annual meeting January 18 - 19, the ARRL Board of Directors decided that the organization needs to "review, re-examine, and reappraise ARRL's regulatory and legislative policy with regard to private land use restrictions."

In order to effectively undertake such a review, the Board adopted a resolution to withdraw its December 18 Petition for Rule Making to the FCC, which sought to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to incorporate the provisions of the Amateur Radio Parity Act (ARPA), without prejudice to refiling. The resolution also is asking members of Congress who had refiled legislation to enact the Amateur Radio Parity Act (ARPA) to refrain from seeking to advance that legislation pending further input from ARRL.

Board members noted that ARRL has been pursuing adoption of the ARPA for the past several years, and that objective has not yet been achieved. While everyone understands that getting Congressional approval on any matter can be a lengthy process, the difficulties getting the ARPA approved has been a source of frustration to the organization and its members. A majority of the Board now believes that there is a need to reassess the organization's approach to this issue.

The Board wants to make clear to its members, and to those whose policies and conduct prevent or impair the right of US Amateur Radio operators to operate from their homes, that this pause is not, and should not be interpreted as an abandonment of its efforts to obtain relief from private land-use restrictions. The Board noted that its intent is "to renew, continue and strengthen the ARRL's effort to achieve relief from such restrictions." This action represents a chance to get the best product possible for all US Amateur Radio operators.

The Board expressed its sincere appreciation to the thousands of ARRL members who took the time to contact their representatives in Congress to urge them to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The Board also offered its thanks to those members of Congress who have consistently and continuously supported the rights of US Amateur Radio operators.



**Don't forget to get your Pre-Registration forms in before the March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 deadline for your Tickets, Boiled Crawfish, RV Space, Ham Radio Swap Tables, and Flea Market Tables.**

## February 2019



### VE TEST SESSION

## Test Session Results 7 February 2019

January & February were good months for testing in as much as they both produced new Hams. Tonight we were graced with three new Techs. They are : David J. DeCourt ~**KI5DHH**~ of New Iberia, Andrew K. Panday ~**KI5DHK**~ of Youngsville & Jess W. Crosier ~**KI5DGP**~ of Cade. Congratulations to all.

Also wish to thank the VEs in attendance. They were: Greg ~ K5LFT, John ~ W4HVVH, Brett ~ KG5IQU, Rick ~ KF5KEL & Archie ~ W5AG.

Another good night !!!!!

73, de Greg ~ K5LFT



## Geoffrey Starks Sworn in as FCC Commissioner

The FCC now officially has its full complement of five members. Democrat Geoffrey Starks, who succeeded Mignon Clyburn on the Commission, was sworn in January 30. He formerly served as assistant bureau chief in the FCC Enforcement Bureau.



"I am deeply honored to serve as a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission, and I thank the President and the United States Senate for this exceptional privilege." Starks said in a statement. "As the last few weeks have affirmed, being a public servant is a calling to serve a mission bigger than yourself. Throughout my career, I have focused on protecting the most vulnerable and holding wrongdoers accountable. In my new role, I shall not only continue to pursue those goals, but also look forward to working with Congress, my fellow Commissioners, and the FCC's outstanding staff."

Starks said that every community "has a stake in the future of communications in this country, and all have the right to be heard. I will always be listening."

Republican Brendan Carr, who already was sitting on the Commission after appointment to an unexpired term, recently was been reconfirmed for a new full 5-year term. Three of the FCC's five members are traditionally of the same political party as the President.

## Russian "Sunflower" Coastal Radar Showing Up on 60, 40, and 75 Meters

ARRL 02-25-2019

The January issue of the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System (IARUMS) newsletter reports the Russian "Sunflower" coastal radar, located east of Vladivostok, is being heard at nights on 3,716 kHz and 6,860 – 7,005 kHz, as well as on several 60-meter frequencies.

A Chinese wideband over-the-horizon (OTH) radar also appeared on 7.000 MHz in early January.

While 60 meters and 80/75 meters are shared bands, the 7.000 – 7.200 MHz segment of 40 meters is currently allocated exclusively to the Amateur Radio Service worldwide. True intruders are those appearing on exclusive Amateur Radio frequency allocations.

Some domestic Amateur Radio HF allocations outside Region 2 (the Americas), such as 7.200 to 7.300 MHz, are either shared with other services or not available to radio amateurs. On HF allocations such as 30 and 60 meters, Amateur Radio is secondary to other users. The 20-, 17-, 15-, 12-, and 10-meter bands are exclusively available to the Amateur Radio Service worldwide.

## **Court Rules Excessive Antenna Application Fees Violated Reasonable Accommodation**

Long-pending Amateur Radio antenna litigation that ARRL helped to fund has finally borne fruit. The Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division: Second Judicial Department has ruled in the case of Myles Landstein, N2EHG, that the Town of LaGrange, New York, not only overstepped its state-granted authority by assessing excessive fees, but violated the limited federal preemption PRB-1 in the process. PRB-1 requires municipalities and states to "reasonably" accommodate Amateur Radio antennas and to apply the "minimum practicable regulation" in handling Amateur Radio antenna applications. The ruling is slated to be published as a case decision. Landstein, who lives in the Bronx, had wanted to erect a 70-foot antenna support structure for a multioperator station in the Hamlet of Lagrangeville; the Town of LaGrange has a 35-foot height limit.

"This case, which goes back to 2013, was about applying PRB-1 to a situation in which a municipality attempted to thwart the installation and maintenance of ham radio antennas by imposing excessive permit application costs on the ham applicant," said communications attorney Chris Imlay, W3KD, who is familiar with the case. Imlay said the FCC has refused to clarify the cost-prohibition issue as it relates to PRB-1's "minimum practicable regulation" and reasonable accommodation provisions of PRB-1.

"The Town incurred more than \$17,000 in legal consulting fees in connection with [Landstein's] applications, and informed the petitioner that he was required to reimburse the Town for these fees before any determination would be made with respect to the applications," the court decision recounted. "The Town subsequently, as 'an accommodation to the petitioner,' reduced the amount...to...\$5,874, but also required the petitioner to maintain a minimum advance continuing escrow balance of at least \$1,000 to cover the Town's future consulting costs..."

"We hold that, because the Town did not limit the consulting fees charged to the petitioner to those necessary to the decision-making function of the town's Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, the town exceeded its state-granted authority by requiring payment of the consulting fees and, moreover, violated a rule promulgated by the [FCC]," the court concluded.

Given the significant delay, Imlay said both he and Landstein had lost hope that the case would ever be resolved in Landstein's favor -- and in the favor of radio amateurs in New York, generally -- much less be a case that would "create favorable precedent for Amateur Radio."

"ARRL originally was drawn to this case, because New York is the only state that, due to a very old case decision, has held that Amateur Radio antennas are not necessarily a 'normal accessory use' to residential real property," Imlay explained. "Because the issue in the case dealt with both that issue and the issue of cost prohibitions in the permitting process relative to the cost of the antenna installation, we decided to fund the case." Landstein lost at trial, and an appeal was filed in about 2015, for which ARRL provided memoranda of law about the cost-prohibition issue. "The antenna at issue and the support structure was to cost no more than \$1,000," Imlay said.

The court concluded that the town "may not use its land-use regulatory authority to construct 'hoop after hoop' for the petitioner to jump through in order to erect his radio antenna tower [and] cannot impose unreasonable expenses so as to create an insurmountable financial barrier to the pursuit of the project. In this context, not only must the consultant fees be reasonable..., but the underlying services must be necessarily related to those municipal regulatory functions which are not preempted by federal law."

---

**Don't forget to put March 8th & 9th on your calendar for the 59th Acadiana Hamfest in Rayne, LA. The Friday night will have Boiled Crawfish so make sure you get your Pre-Registration order in early. Visit the AARA website for more details.**

<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>



---

## Pictures from the ISS

On Saturday night, February 9, at 7pm a group from the Tech class gathered at the downtown parking garage next to the Lafayette Science museum to watch a demonstration of the process of downloading images sent from the International Space Station.

The ISS sent 12 images during this past weekend. We were able to download 2 images from the pass last night. The pass lasted from 7:21pm to 7:26pm.

Club members present were: Galen Wilson, KF5BET; Abbi Wilson, KF5BEW; Kendra Wilson, KF5FYS; Michael Cavell, KI5ARX.

The group was shown how to download the images using a setup of a 2m handheld, tape measure yagi antenna and 2 smart phones. The two apps used on the phones were ISS Detector (for tracking the satellite) and Robot36 (for decoding the image data).

Just prior to the start of the pass, the antenna was pointed towards the horizon where the ISS would come over using the ISS detector app for compass bearing and azimuth. about a minute prior to the start of the pass, a signal from the ISS was detected. using the 2m handheld for the audio, the other smart phone running Robot36 was placed on the speaker of the handheld and the image started to appear on the screen of the phone. We were able to download the first full image. After the first image was downloaded, there was about a minute of silence before the next image started.

We were able to receive two full images during the pass and all seemed pleased with the exercise.

Galen Wilson, KF5BET



---

## New Officers 2019-2020

At the February 2019 General Meetings, the following members were elected and will be installed in office at the "Hamfest Banquet" the following Saturday after the AARA Hamfest March 8 & 9, 2019.

President: Chris Ancelet **N5MCY**

V. President: Derek Meche **WM5TS**

Secretary: David McCutcheon **KG5JHR**

Treasurer: Tom Dischler **W5OHJ**

Members at Large: Glen Thibodeaux **KF5FNP;;** Steve Webre **AF5VR;;** Sandy LeBlanc **KE5KJF**

## February 2019 AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
AARA Monday Night Net	4	67		141	KD5JSM Danny
Region 4 SkyWarn Net	4	34		88	N5MCY Chris
Silent Key Memorial Net	5	47		84	KD5JSM Danny
Thursday Night Net Cancelled for now					

Error is a hardy plant; it flourisheth in every soil.

~~~ Martin Farquhar Tupper

### AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Beginning January 1, 2018, the net will not rotate between repeaters but the Net Controllers will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater only.

The 146.820 and 443.00 repeater located on the Chase Towers downtown Lafayette are down indefinitely due to roof repairs. The Monday Night Net and the Silent Key Memorial Net is being held on the 147.040 repeater in Duson, LA until repairs are made. The 145.410 in Lydia is back up, PL of 123.0.

The March 2019 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website.

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>

| DATE:      | TIME:   | REPEATER:     | PL TONE: | NCS          |
|------------|---------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| 03/04/2019 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Danny KD5JSM |
| 03/11/2019 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Paul N5KNY   |
| 03/18/2019 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Eric KG5JHP  |
| 03/25/2019 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Chris N5MCY  |



#### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

|       |        |          |
|-------|--------|----------|
| 03/03 | KG5ZEW | Matthew  |
| 03/05 | KG5PHJ | Eugene   |
| 03/05 | KG5PHK | Donald   |
| 03/11 | KG5RSR | Benjamin |
| 03/13 | K5NCA  | Bill     |
| 03/16 | KK6EWB | Ingo     |
| 03/19 | KG5QKG | Gary     |
| 03/26 | KG5IRS | Synomen  |
| 03/31 | N0AJ   | John     |
| 04/06 | KE5JXC | Arnold   |
| 04/08 | KF5BET | Galen    |

### REGION 4 SKYWARN NET

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 SkyWarn Net will take place on the 145.370 SkyWarn repeater in Lafayette. Net Control Operators will alternate each week.

In case the 145.370 repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The March schedule can be found at this link:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8 - Central 103.5.

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

---

## Amateur Radio is Aboard during Attempt to Become Oldest Circumnavigator

ARRL 02-18-2019

Jeanne Socrates, VE0JS/KC2IOV, is used to solitude. The lone 76-year-old yachtswoman passed the southern tip of Africa — some 300 miles to the north — on Valentine's Day as she forged on toward Australia and New Zealand in her 38-foot sailing vessel *Nereida*. While underway, Socrates keeps in touch with a community of friends via Amateur Radio — although she had to yield to the ARRL International DX CW activity over the weekend — and she's sticking to a schedule of 7.160 MHz at 0230 UTC daily. Socrates reported making contact with some ham radio friends on the US west coast on February 17. She's been blogging her progress.

The retired math teacher and UK native also is no stranger to circumnavigating the globe, having already become the oldest woman to complete a solo, non-stop, unassisted round-the-world voyage. Ham radio served as her link to terra firma during her earlier adventures. Since 2013, she's made two additional attempts to become the oldest person to circumnavigate Earth, the goal she's now attempting to achieve. She departed Victoria, British Columbia, last October.

Two earlier attempts were cut short when her vessel was damaged in rough seas. Then, she suffered serious injuries in a fall last year.

Socrates is working around a damaged mainsail. "We seem to be having many more days of light wind giving slow speed, than stronger wind giving good speed — need a wind of well over 15 knots and, preferably, for us to be headed downwind. Any upwind travel immediately gives poor boat speed — that's when the damaged mainsail is badly missed," she recounted in a recent blog entry. She's been using the vessel's trisail — typically used for high-wind conditions — because the *Nereida*'s mainsail repair was showing signs that it might not hold up in the wind. Socrates said she'll continue to work on the mainsail as time permits. —

Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News for some information

---

### Now What??? by Joseph "Moe" Meaux K2JDM

**The Deception of Lead Acid Batteries** Lead acid batteries, although cheaper than AGM or Lithium batteries, are *heavy*. Really heavy! How far could YOU hike with a lead acid battery in your backpack? Not too far, I assume.

Another thing is that AGM or Lead acid batteries can only use up to 50% of their capacity. So you would need 2 such batteries to get the full capacity (in amp hours) if you connect them in parallel.

Houses that use solar power know that battery maintenance is the most important part of the job. You never must allow a battery to go below that 50% mark, or the battery starts to die fairly quickly.

And what about Lithium batteries? Those things are expensive. Or are they? The majority of the Lithium batteries last for 1000+ cycles. If you keep the charge-discharge range of 20 to 90 percent, their lifespan is extended. Even when they finally start deteriorating, the only affect is reduced capacity. So in the long run, Lithium batteries are a better alternative.

*Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.*  
*P. O. Box 51174*  
*Lafayette, LA 70505-1174*  
*Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>*



*Share the Fun ~  
Bring a Friend  
to be a HAM.*

---

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*59<sup>th</sup> Acadiana Hamfest 2019*

*March 8<sup>th</sup> Friday & 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday*

*Rayne, LA*

---

### **Holiday Corn Dip**

- 3- (11 oz.) cans Mexi-style corn
- 1- 4 oz. Can diced green chilli peppers – drained
- 5 green onions, chopped
- 1 (8 oz.) container sour cr  m
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup mayonnaise
- 10 oz. shredded cheddar cheese

In a medium-size mixing bowl, combine the Mexican-style corn, green chilies, green onions, sour cream, mayonnaise, and cheddar cheese. Mix well. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

### **FCC Information Service**

*Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/ vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322 This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:*

*[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).*

**FCC Website:**

*<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>*

*New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/ VEC at 860-594-3000.*

*<http://www.arrl.org/arrlyec>*

*The mailing address to the FCC is:  
Federal Communications Commission,  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554*